Knowing the truth of a subject is practical and useful. In a normal economic scenario, for example, the truth can save money. The truth can earn someone more money. By contrast, half-truths or lies can be harmful or costly. When that was put to <u>left</u>-leaning Bing's AI powered Copilot, it responded with about a 300-word answer that ended with: "In summary, truthfulness has practical and financial implications. While half-truths or lies may seem convenient initially, their long-term effects can be costly. Prudent choices involve embracing truth and transparency in all aspects of life." Before this <u>news-analysis</u> dives into the headline themes lets understand why these topics matter to America, efforts for affordable housing, a stronger economy, more opportunities for all Americans and MHVille. So, let's dive into a focused Q&A on why a better understanding of history and truth can be profitable and practical.

Part I

1)

Copilot, in general terms, is it fair to say that the truth is useful to know? Would it be fair to say that knowing the truth can save money in some scenarios? Or knowing the truth can earn more money in the proper circumstances? Is it also accurate and prudent to think that a half truth or lie can have costly or damaging effects? Elaborate on those specific notions.



Certainly! Let's explore the significance of truth, its impact on financial outcomes, and the potential consequences of half-truths or lies:

1. The Value of Truth:

- **Usefulness**: Truth serves as a foundation for informed decisions. Knowing the truth allows us to navigate life more effectively.
- **Transparency**: Honest communication fosters trust in relationships, whether personal or professional.
- Learning and Growth: Acknowledging the truth enables learning, growth, and adaptation.

2. Financial Implications:

- **Saving Money**: Knowing the truth can indeed save money:
 - **Consumer Decisions**: Accurate information helps us choose wisely when making purchases. Avoiding scams or overpaying for goods and services is possible with truthful data.
 - **Investments**: In financial markets, accurate information about stocks, bonds, or real estate can lead to better investment decisions.
 - **Insurance**: Truthful disclosures when buying insurance prevent coverage gaps or claim denials.
- Earning More Money:
 - **Negotiations**: In business or salary negotiations, truthfulness can lead to better outcomes. Honest representation of skills and qualifications enhances earning potential.
 - **Business Reputation**: Transparent businesses attract loyal customers, leading to long-term profitability.

3. Half-Truths and Lies:

- **Costly Effects**:
 - **Financial Loss**: A half-truth or lie can lead to poor investments, legal disputes, or financial penalties.
 - **Damaged Reputation**: False claims harm personal or corporate reputation, affecting future opportunities.
 - Legal Consequences: Fraudulent behavior can result in legal actions.
- Emotional Toll:
 - Stress: Maintaining lies or half-truths creates stress and anxiety.
 - **Broken Trust**: Relationships suffer when trust is broken due to dishonesty.
- 4. Prudence and Ethics:
 - Accuracy: Prudent individuals seek accurate information before making decisions.
 - **Ethical Responsibility**: Honesty is an ethical obligation. The impact of our words and actions extends beyond ourselves.

In summary, truthfulness has practical and financial implications. While half-truths or lies may seem convenient initially, their long-term effects can be costly. Prudent choices involve embracing truth and transparency in all aspects of life. 💥 ..."

2)

Nicely said, and FWIW, I tend to agree. Okay, if truth is useful and good, and half-truths, lies or deliberate deceptions are bad, does that apply to history too? Can manipulating history be part of a strategy for those who aim to deceive in support of their own motives and agendas? Respond to those notions.

4

Certainly! The manipulation of history is a complex and multifaceted topic, and it intersects with politics, power dynamics, and human memory. Let's explore the implications:

1. The Importance of Historical Truth:

- **Collective Memory**: History shapes our collective memory and understanding of the past. It informs our identity, culture, and societal norms.
- **Learning from Mistakes**: Honest historical accounts allow us to learn from past mistakes, avoid repeating them, and make informed decisions.
- Accountability: Acknowledging historical truths holds individuals, institutions, and nations accountable for their actions.

2. Manipulation of History:

- Selective Narratives: Manipulating history involves emphasizing certain events, downplaying others, or presenting a biased narrative.
- **Political Agendas**: Those in power may manipulate history to serve their interests:
 - Legitimization: Rulers may rewrite history to legitimize their authority or justify policies.

- **Nationalism**: Nationalistic agendas often involve glorifying certain historical events while ignoring others.
- Victimhood: Some groups use historical narratives to claim victimhood or seek reparations.
- Erosion of Trust: Manipulation erodes trust in institutions, historians, and media.

3. Examples of Manipulation:

- **Propaganda**: Totalitarian regimes have historically used propaganda to control historical narratives.
- **Textbook Revisions**: Educational materials can be altered to fit political ideologies.
- **Monuments and Memorials**: The construction or removal of monuments reflects contested historical interpretations.

4. Consequences:

- **Distorted Understanding**: Manipulated history leads to a distorted understanding of the past.
- **Conflict**: Competing historical narratives can fuel conflicts between nations or ethnic groups.
- **Loss of Identity**: Erasing or altering history can lead to a loss of cultural identity.
- Legacy: Future generations inherit the consequences of manipulated history.

5. Guardians of Truth:

- **Historians**: Their role is to seek truth, analyze evidence, and present balanced accounts.
- **Media**: Responsible journalism ensures accurate reporting of historical events.
- **Education**: Schools and universities play a crucial role in teaching unbiased history.

6. Conclusion:

- While history can be weaponized, it is also a powerful tool for understanding, empathy, and progress.
- Vigilance against manipulation is essential for preserving historical truth and promoting a just society.

In summary, the manipulation of history can indeed serve deceptive motives and agendas. Recognizing this allows us to safeguard the integrity of historical narratives and learn from our shared past. Ξ

3)

Define history and its importance. Then, react to this quotation from a former history teacher and then House Majority Whip James "Jim" Cyburn (SC-D) who said this on 2.29.2020: "We study history in order to understand the present and prepare for the future. Because anything that's happened before can happen again." Historian Howard Zinn, per AZ Quotes, stated: "George Orwell said, "Whoever controls the past controls the future," by which he meant that history is incredibly important in shaping the world view of the next generation of people." Elaborate on those notions.



Certainly! Let's delve into the concept of history, its significance, and react to the insightful quotations you've shared:

1. **Definition of History**:

- **History** refers to the study of past events, actions, and developments. It encompasses the collective record of human experiences, achievements, struggles, and transformations.
- It includes both major historical events (such as wars, revolutions, and scientific discoveries) and everyday life (social, cultural, economic, and political aspects).

2. Importance of History:

• Understanding the Present:

- History provides context for current events. By examining the past, we gain insights into the origins of societal structures, conflicts, and cultural norms.
- It helps us understand how our present circumstances are shaped by historical decisions and actions.

• **Preparing for the Future**:

- The adage "anything that's happened before can happen again" underscores the cyclical nature of history. Patterns repeat, and lessons learned inform our choices.
- By studying historical successes and failures, we can anticipate challenges and make informed decisions.

• Identity and Culture:

- History shapes our collective identity. It defines who we are as individuals, communities, and nations.
- Cultural heritage, traditions, and shared memories are rooted in historical narratives.
- Accountability and Justice:
 - Acknowledging historical injustices (such as slavery, colonization, or genocide) is essential for reconciliation and progress.
 - Holding individuals and institutions accountable for past actions promotes justice.

• Human Progress and Innovation:

- Innovations build upon past knowledge. Understanding historical breakthroughs inspires new ideas.
- Scientific, technological, and artistic advancements are part of our historical legacy.

3. Quotations and Reactions:

- James Clyburn's Quote:
 - His statement emphasizes the practical value of history. Learning from the past equips us to navigate the complexities of the present and anticipate future challenges.
 - It underscores the cyclical nature of human behavior and societal patterns.
- Howard Zinn's Quote:

- George Orwell's assertion that "Whoever controls the past controls the future" highlights the power dynamics inherent in shaping historical narratives.
- Controlling historical narratives influences how future generations perceive reality, values, and ideologies.
- Historians play a critical role in preserving diverse perspectives and challenging dominant narratives.

4. Conclusion:

- History is not merely a collection of facts; it is a dynamic force that shapes our worldview, informs our decisions, and defines our legacy.
- As we study history, we become active participants in the ongoing story of humanity.

In summary, history is a compass for understanding, learning, and shaping a better future. Let us continue to explore its depths and honor its lessons. Ξ

4)

Per Quote Investigator: "Quote Investigator: In 1905 George Santayana published "The Life of Reason, or The Phases of Human Progress". The twelfth chapter titled "Flux and Constancy In Human Nature" contained the following passage. Boldface added to excepts by QI:1 Progress, far from consisting in change, depends on retentiveness. When change is absolute there remains no being to improve and no direction is set for possible improvement: and when experience is not retained, as among savages, infancy is perpetual. Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it. In the first stage of life the mind is frivolous and easily distracted; it misses progress by failing in consecutiveness and persistence. This is the condition of children and barbarians, in whom instinct has learned nothing from experience. QI has found no closely matching statement in the writings of Edmund Burke. He did pen a thematically related remark in his 1790 book titled "Reflections on the Revolution in France":2 People will not look forward to posterity, who never look backward to their ancestors." That seems to make good sense, but respond to those notions.

Both George Santayana's observation and Edmund Burke's reflection underscore the profound role that history plays in shaping our present and future. Let's delve into their insights:

1. George Santayana's Perspective:

- Santayana's statement emphasizes the interplay between change and retentiveness.
- **Change and Progress**: While change is often associated with progress, he argues that true progress depends on retaining valuable experiences from the past.
- Avoiding Repetition: Those who forget or ignore history are at risk of repeating past mistakes. The inability to learn from history leads to perpetual infancy, akin to savages.
- **Consecutiveness and Persistence**: Progress requires a focused, persistent mind one that builds upon past knowledge rather than discarding it.

2. Edmund Burke's Reflection:

- Burke's assertion that "People will not look forward to posterity, who never look backward to their ancestors" aligns with Santayana's theme.
- Ancestral Wisdom: Looking back to our ancestors provides wisdom, context, and continuity. Their experiences inform our choices.
- **Legacy and Responsibility**: By honoring our past, we contribute to the legacy we leave for future generations.
- **Posterity**: Our actions today shape the world for those who come after us. Understanding history guides our decisions.

3. Implications:

- **Balancing Change and Tradition**: Progress involves a delicate balance between innovation and respect for tradition.
- **Learning from the Past**: History serves as a repository of human experiences both triumphs and tragedies. It offers lessons for navigating the complexities of life.
- **Cultural Identity**: Ancestral knowledge contributes to cultural identity. It connects us to our roots and heritage.

4. Conclusion:

- As we study history, we honor our ancestors, learn from their struggles, and build a better future.
- Whether through Santayana's retentiveness or Burke's backward glance, the message remains clear: History is our compass, guiding us toward progress and wisdom.

5)

Note that some would say that Howard Zinn, George Orwell, and James Clyburn were or are men operating from a leftist perspective. Orwell has been described as a disillusioned socialist, meaning what he embraced earlier in his life - over time - became a disappointment to him later in life. George Santayana and Edmund Burke are often figures revered by those on the centerright. *MHProNews* has often noted that anyone can express something that is true. This platform and *MHLivingNews* have for years made an effort to identify if a news source is from the <u>left or right</u>. Knowledge can be accumulative for those willing to pay attention to details. While we are known as critics of Warren Buffett, a man who has long supported leftist causes, we have acknowledged that *some* of <u>his remarks are demonstrably insightful, even if they may have dark elements</u>. We have also noted that some of Buffett's son <u>Peter's remarks</u> have essentially undermined the notion of his father's purported philanthropy, which have been described as philanthro-feudalism, philanthro-capitalism, the charitable-industrial complex, and the philanthropic-industrial complex. Tying these lessons into history-minded Buffett's obvious connection with manufactured housing has a practical value.

The fact that truth can be found on the left, center, and right is why the <u>lesson of separating the</u> <u>wheat from the chaff is important</u>. Over time, what is useful and good may or should become clearer.

6) As a source that is often seen as a Buffett critic, a question should be why? Why be critical about someone who is being celebrated this weekend in Omaha? Is Buffett saving capitalism or undermining it? That will be examined more carefully in a separate report planned for the near future. Stay tuned, it should be valuable.

But for now, just keep in mind what William "Bill" Gates III, a longtime Buffett ally in business, politics, and in so-called philanthropy (<u>philanthro-feudalism</u>, <u>philanthro-capitalism</u>) told <u>left</u>-leaning CNBC.

"I didn't even want to meet Warren because I thought, 'Hey this guy buys and sells things, and so he found imperfections in terms of markets, that's not value added to society, that's a zerosum game that is almost parasitic.' That was my view before I met him ... he wasn't going to tell me about inventing something," Gates said at a conference. Pay close attention to each aspect of that remark.

- Buffett found imperfections in markets
- Buffett is not value added to society
- Buffett is playing a zero-sum game that Gates described as "almost parasitic."
- According to the CDC: "A parasite is an organism that lives on or in a host organism and gets its food from or at the expense of its host."

7) Then, consider what a one-time self-described Buffett fan Robin Harding wrote about Buffett in the *Financial Times*.

[caption id="attachment_152731" align="aligncenter" width="803"]

How Warren Buffett broke American capitalism FINANCIAL TIMES





"Growing up, I admired nobody more than Warren Buffett, the greatest investor ever...."

"But however much you admire the man, his influence has a dark side because the beating heart of Buffettism, celebrated in a thousand investment books, is to avoid competition and minimise capital investment in the real economy..."

"Mr Buffett is completely honest about his desire to reduce competition. He just calls it by a folksy name — "widening the moat". "I don't want a business that's easy for competitors. I want a business with a moat around it with a very valuable castle in the middle," he said in 2007. He tells Berkshire Hathaway managers to widen their moat every year.

The Buffett definition of good management is therefore clear. If you have effective competitors, you are doing it wrong..."

"Nor is there a simple solution. Better antitrust enforcement

would help... Mr Buffett is brilliant at buying into monopoly profits, but he does not start companies or gamble on new ideas."

Robin Harding, in the article cited at the left above which had the featured image below.
Yellow highlighting added for emphasis.



https://www.manufacturedhomelivingnews.com/monopolization-of-american-dream-telling-theinside-story-of-home-ownership-gone-awry/[/caption]

8) Each aspect of the above (as well as much of what follows) is in several respects HISTORIC in nature and by definition. It is a look into the past to get a better understanding of the present, so we can better prepare for the future.

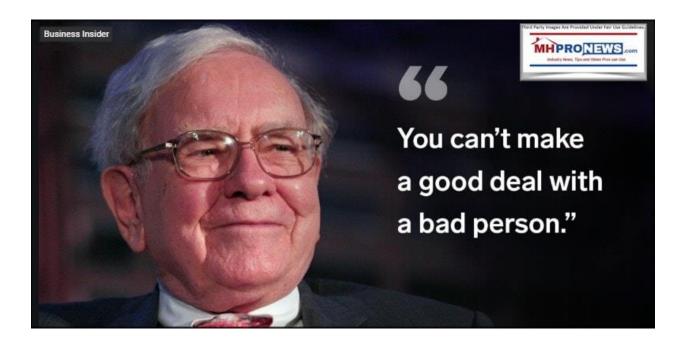
9) There are often 'aha!' or 'eureka!' moments in life. A kind of epiphany when someone realizes something so profound that it may begin to shape their understanding of life in general and how it impacts their life in particular. That point may come when someone's is willing to question what they were told by some authority or even by a 'trusted' figure. Harding, for example, clearly admitted that he admired Buffett for some time. Then, apparently one or more realizations occurred, and his view of Buffett moved to being a Buffett critic instead of a Buffett acolyte. While an acolyte can have a religious meaning, an acolyte is defined by Merriam Webster like this: "*one who attends or assists a leader : follower*."

Sometimes the authority, leader, or other individual will be proven correct if their thinking is challenged. At other times, it may be discovered that they were incorrect. Truth is often knowable and discernable. But in an era when the truth is often obscured by those who push an agenda, it is important to recognize that the truth of a subject ought to be tested.

10) Another person from the left that MHProNews/MHLivingNews has cited for years is actoractivist Danny Glover. Glover said in the course of his commentary for the acclaimed documentary drama, Shadows of Liberty, the following. Note that Glover reportedly served one a Buffett-funded nonprofit board.

Per <u>Glover</u>: "*It's not only a monopoly of wealth it's a monopoly on information as well.*" - Control over capital access and a control over information, including historic insights, is part of how financial elites are exercising their power over much of the population and U.S. political processes.

11) While Buffett fans and members of firms such as Clayton Homes gather in Omaha to 'celebrate' him and his now late partner Charlie Munger, <u>MHProNews notes that both Buffett and</u> <u>Munger have been decried</u> as taking numerous immoral actions during their lives. History and details can help someone discover and discern insights that can be very valuable in navigating life. Think about that in the context of what Buffett himself said, "You can't make a good deal with a bad person." Sometimes wealthy people say and do hypocritical things.



12) Let's sum up.

13) This Sunday, the balance of the headline themes will be discussed in the Postscript (Part III) of this report and analysis.